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Until the publication of this edition, it was hardly possible to gain a correct view of the scope of Bacon's philosophy, and the relations of its different parts. The contradictory opinions held by men of intelligence concerning his system are proof how little it was really understood. Henceforward no difficulty of this sort will exist, save only as it springs from the occasional obscurity of Bacon's own thought, or the imperfect character of the form he gave to it, or the incomplete condition in which he left portions of the work which he had sketched out. Bacon's fame will henceforth owe much to Mr. Spedding and his coadjutors. This edition of his works is at once the monument of his genius and the most honorable tribute to his greatness.

We learn with pleasure that the publishers of the American reprint propose to reprint in corresponding style the "Letters and Life of Francis Bacon," by Mr. Spedding, which is an almost indispensable supplement to the Works, and of which but two volumes have as yet been issued in England. It is when completed to contain, indeed, not the least interesting portion of Lord Bacon's writings, comprising all of what Mr. Spedding terms his "Occasional Works," — Letters, Speeches, Tracts, Memorials of all sorts. These of course furnish the material for Bacon's biography, and are more important than all his other writings as illustrations of his personal traits, his moral character, and his relations to his contemporaries. The same admirable editorial qualities that Mr. Spedding has shown in the other portions of the work are exhibited in the volumes already published of this last division of it. We hope that the reprint will soon afford us the opportunity to speak at length of their interest and value.

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10. — 1. *Sacred and Legendary Art.* By MRS. JAMESON. *Containing Legends of the Angels and Archangels, the Evangelists, the Apostles, the Doctors of the Church, St. Mary Magdalene, the Patron Saints, the Martyrs, the Early Bishops, the Hermits, and the Warrior Saints of Christendom, as represented in the Fine Arts.* Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1865. 2 vols. 32mo. pp. xv. and 417, 426. [Blue and Gold.]
 2. *Legends of the Monastic Orders, as represented in the Fine Arts. Forming the Second Series of Sacred and Legendary Art.* By MRS. JAMESON. Corrected and Enlarged Edition. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1865. 32mo. pp. xv. and 489. [Blue and Gold.]

MRS. JAMESON had already acquired an honorable rank as a writer when she began the preparation of her works on Christian Art; yet

they gave to her a new and wider popularity, and it is on them that her reputation will mainly rest. Her mind had been enriched by various study and travel; her style had been matured by long practice; and she had outgrown many of the faults manifest in her earlier productions. With these advantages, and after much special preparation, she entered on a field which had been scarcely touched by any previous writer; and she treated her attractive theme with a good judgment, a wealth of appropriate learning, and a purity of taste, which will secure for her work a permanent place in literature.

These volumes form an admirable legendary, in which the most popular of the legends of the mediæval Church are given as derived from the best authorities, while through these legends the art of the Middle Ages is illustrated, and the ideas and sentiments by which it was inspired — ideas and sentiments that are unfamiliar to the modern and Protestant world — are clearly exhibited and sympathetically reproduced. Her complete work (including the “Legends of the Madonna”) is an invaluable hand-book to the student of Christian Art, and scarcely less valuable to the student of the forms under which religious thought has manifested itself in the modern world.

The engravings with which the original editions of these volumes were illustrated make them too expensive for general circulation, and too cumbrous for the use of travellers, but the present very neat pocket edition brings them, in a convenient form, within the reach of all who may desire to possess them. We hope that their reception may be such as to induce the publishers to complete the series by reprinting in the same form the recent work on the artistic representation of Our Lord, begun by Mrs. Jameson, and completed since her death by Lady Eastlake.

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11. — *Azarian: an Episode*. By HARRIET ELIZABETH PRESCOTT, Author of “The Amber Gods,” etc. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1864. 16mo. pp. 251.

THE volume before us is characterized by that venturesome, unprincipled literary spirit, defiant alike of wisdom and taste, which has been traceable through Miss Prescott's productions, from “Sir Rohan's Ghost” downward. We looked upon this latter work, at the time of its publication, as the very apotheosis of the picturesque; but “Sir Rohan's Ghost,” “The Amber Gods,” and even “The Rim,” compared with “Azarian,” are admirably sober and coherent. Miss Prescott has steadily grown in audacity, and in that disagreeable audacity which seems to have